

Juraj Belik

In addition, cadre officers, cultural officers and propaganda officers from the various Communist Party organizations attended the school. Among those participating in the course, there was a woman, Marie Chomova from Porubky, district Liptavsky Hradok.

4. All members of the course were accommodated in the school itself and were not permitted to leave the vicinity of Rajecke Teplice during the duration of the course. They were strictly forbidden to discuss the school subject matter with anyone. The male members of the course were forbidden to maintain any relations with women. They were permitted to visit their families once a fortnight. Leave was granted only for Sunday, and the members were required to return within 24 hours. Members could leave the school on Wednesday also. The school was guarded day and night by three members of the National Security Corps (SNB). No one was permitted to approach the vicinity of the school.

5. Daily Schedule of the Course:

Reveille at 0600 hours
Gymnastics in the yard of the hotel from 0600 to 0630 hours.
Breakfast from 0630 to 0700 hours with preparation for classes.
Summary of press news from 0700 to 0800 hours.

The summary of press news was organized as follows: The pupils who had to report on the news were required to prepare their report a day in advance. This report was given orally to all members of the course. No report could be longer than 15 minutes. After the report was given, a general discussion was introduced concerning the report itself, the form of presentation, the political significance of the report, the style of the report, the pronunciation of the reporter, the commissions, etc. The discussion was directed by a student who was supposed to report the next day.

Lectures by the teachers from 0800 to 1030 hours
Study 1030 to 1130
Lunch and free time from 1130 to 1400 hours
Study from 1400 to 1630 hours
Study in groups under the supervision of the chairman of such groups from 1630 to 1730 hours
Discussion in the presence of the teacher who lectured on the subject from 1730 to 1830 hours
Study, cultural program, or meeting of the Communist Party from 1930 to 2200 hours
Bedtime at 2230 hours

6. Each member of the course had to pass an examination and receive a certain number of points; in this way, the members were forced to study.

Subject matters taught at school were as follows:

- (a) Economics (eg what is production, material, labor, payment, labor value, six grades of human society, etc) This course was taught for two weeks, two to three hours a day.
- (b) Works of Marx and Engels, their lives, history of the French Revolution of 1848; labor movement in England (Chartism, Luddism, Foneyrofts etc); the consequences of the French Revolution in the world; history of the labor movement; 1st International, 2nd International, Czarist Russia and her history; Russo-Japanese War.
- (c) Lenin, his life history and work.
- (d) Russian Revolution of 1905-1907; the Revolution of 1917; World War I; the USSR, its economic system, legal system, etc; beginnings of the Czech labor movement in Austria-Hungary; reflexes of the Russian Revolution in the Czech Provinces in 1917.
- (e) History of the Czechoslovak Communist Party; New Constitution of Czechoslovakia; Defense and Protection of Czechoslovakia; the Kosice Program; the Czechoslovak Army; Capitalism and Socialism; Historical Materialism; lectures on the origins of human society.

7. The discipline in the Regional Political School was extremely strict. Some of the participants of the course were actively engaged in anti-religious activities. - ie, they took down crucifixes from the walls and transformed them into the Tyrs' emblem of physical fitness. The woman member of the course, Marie Chomova, went to the local church, stole some flowers from the altar and decorated her room with these stolen flowers. However, this behavior caused considerable indignation among the other members of the course.

8. The participants of the course were sent also to collect signatures for the peace offensive from among the local population. As they did not find any cooperation among the people, they tried to get signatures by various kinds of pressure. The members were active mostly in such villages where there were great numbers of so-called "reactionaries".

- 3 -

9. The members of the course were primarily workers without a great deal of intelligence; however, they were all absolutely devoted to the Communist regime. They took the lectures of their teachers very seriously and always obeyed orders. They took part in various trips organized by the school, eg Thirty Years of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, Prague Fair, concerts, model farms of the United Agricultural Cooperatives, etc.

10. The teachers were members of the various regional councils of the Communist Party who themselves were graduated from similar political schools; they included the following:

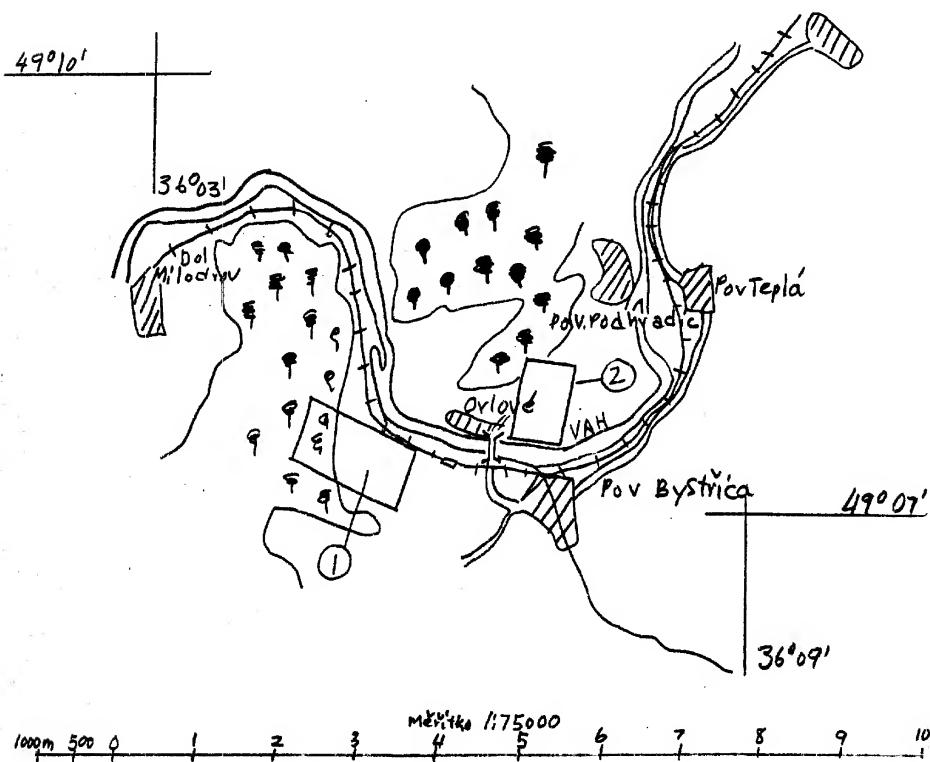
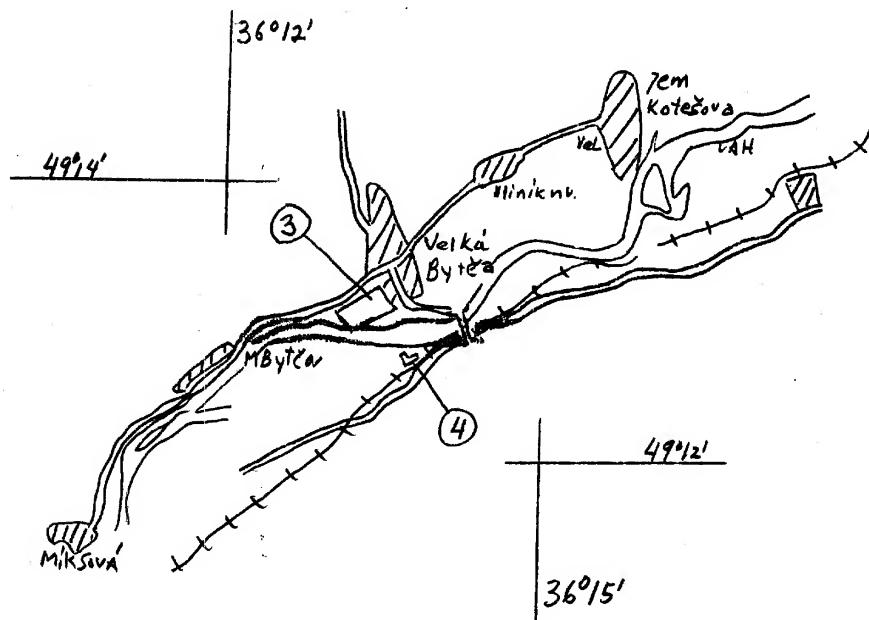
(fnu) Perkovic; Chairman of the Regional Council of the Communist Party, the commander of the State Security Police (STB) from Zilina; the commander of the Regional Command of the National Security Corps (SNB) from Zilina; and Colonel Jani - the garrison commander from Zilina.

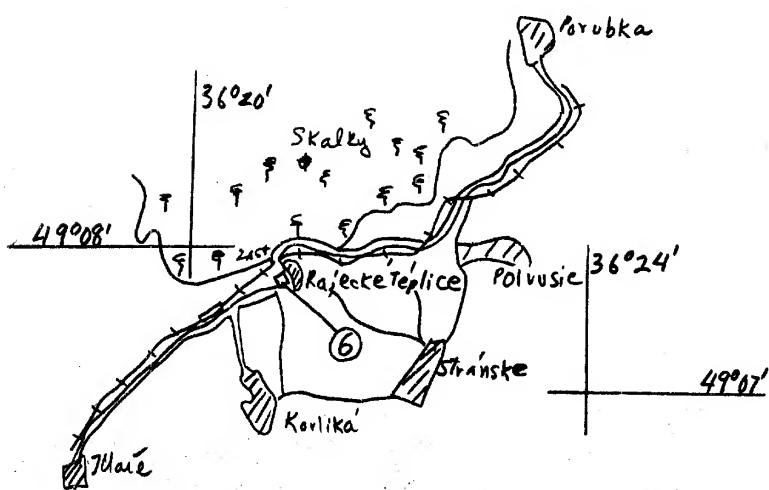
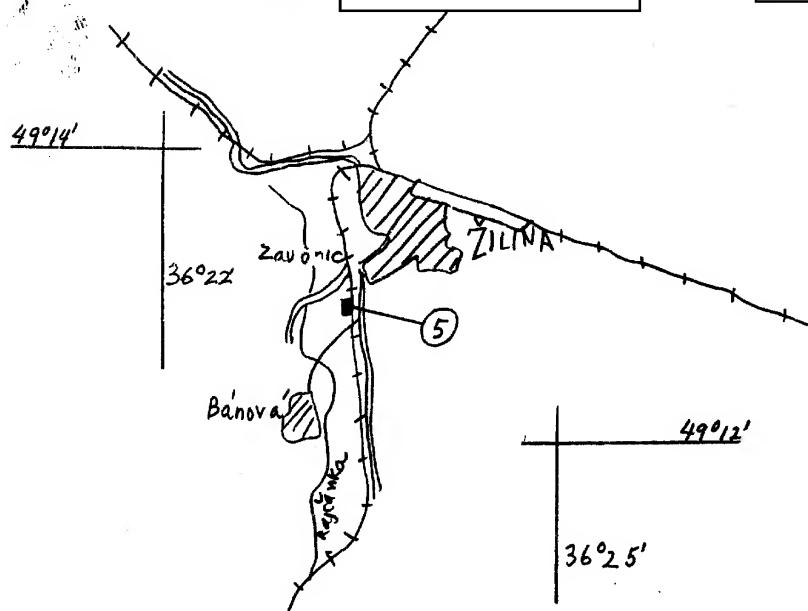
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ENCLOSURE (A): Map of Zilina with Legend

MAP OF ZILINA WITH LEGEND

25X1





Legend

- 1... Pavazske Strojirny (Vah Machinery Works), National Corporation, Klement Gottwald Plant in Povazske Bystrica
- 2... Factory airfield of the Pavazske Strojirny in Povazske Bystrica. The airfield is grass-covered and is 1000 x 800 meters in size. In the summer of 1951, the construction of a new hangar was begun.
- 3... Jemna Mechanika (Precise Machinery) plant, National Corporation in Bytca.
- 4... Buildings of the Jemna Mechanika plant
- 5... Stefanik barracks, built in 1941. The barracks consists of eight three-story buildings in which are accommodated an infantry regiment non-commissioned officers' school
- 6... The Political School (Regional Political School of the Communist Party) in Rajecke Teplice.